



South Carolina Weekly Weather and Crop Progress Report

Cooperating with Clemson University

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Cooperating Agencies:

Clemson University
SC State Climatology Office
Farm Service Agency

GENERAL

Most of South Carolina had ample rain this past week with much of it coming over the weekend. Farmers were busy performing field work, as plantings continued. Strong winds and scattered hail damaged several fields. Soil moisture improved with the rainfall, and was 4% very short, 29% short, 62% adequate, and 5% surplus. The Upstate received the least about of precipitation, and remains the driest region in the state. The statewide average of days that were suitable for field work was 6.1, unchanged from the previous week.

FIELD CROPS

CORN planting is all but finished for the year. Most farmers were putting out nitrogen in their fields. The condition of the crop was still mostly good. **COTTON** planting was in high gear with the early crop being reported in mostly good condition. **OATS** continued to turn color, and will be ripening soon. The crop remained in mostly good condition. **PEANUT** planting was well underway. **SOYBEAN** planting was ongoing. Just about all of the **TOBACCO** crop has been transplanted. Conditions, like the previous week, were looking very good. **WINTER WHEAT** also continued to turning color. The crop looked very good in many coastal areas with promising yield potential. Hessian fly problems persisted inland, and will negatively affect yields there.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

LIVESTOCK conditions were mostly good. **PASTURE** growth was ongoing with the moisture. Conditions continued to improve, and are now mostly good. Producers were continuing to bale **GRAIN HAY**. Hay like many of the other crops was improving with the increased moisture. **PEACH** conditions improved ever so slightly from last week. **VEGETABLE** planting was nearly complete for many crops. Growers have been applying disease controls routinely. Conditions for many of the vegetables were also improving.

Crop Progress for Week Ending May 11, 2008

Crop and Stage	2008			Crop and Stage			2008			2007			5-Yr Avg		
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	
Cantaloup, Planted	91	92	92	Sorghum, Planted			57		62		55				
Corn, Planted	99	100	97	Soybeans, Planted			16		12		16				
Corn, Emerged	93	95	92	Soybeans, Emerged			6		2		2				
Cotton, Planted	29	29	37	Sweet Potatoes, Planted			20		18		23				
Cucumbers, Fresh, Planted	91	94	98	Tobacco, Transplanted			97		97		98				
Hay, Grain Hay, Harvested	59	62	58	Tomatoes, Fresh, Planted			99		100		99				
Oats, Headed	95	98	95	Watermelons, Planted			92		92		93				
Oats, Turned Color	38	42	38	Winter Wheat, Headed			97		97		97				
Peanuts, Planted	24	28	34	Winter Wheat, Turning Color			26		28		34				
Snapbeans, Fresh, Planted	97	94	96												

Condition for Week Ending May 11, 2008

Crop	Very Poor					Poor					Fair					Good				
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Apples	0	0	65	35		0	Peaches		0	6	14	80		0						
Cantaloup	0	6	30	49	15	Peanuts		0	0	37	61	2								
Corn	0	2	35	56	7	Snapbeans		0	12	15	50	23								
Cotton	0	0	41	55	4	Sorghum		0	0	0	97	3								
Cucumbers	0	9	38	37	16	Tobacco		0	0	13	84	3								
Hay	0	0	45	47	8	Tomatoes		0	0	41	49	10								
Livestock	0	2	41	54	3	Watermelons		0	5	34	51	10								
Oats	0	2	25	60	13	Winter Wheat		0	1	25	61	13								
Pasture	0	8	38	51	3															

South Carolina Weekly Weather Summary for the Week Ending May 11, 2008

A sea breeze boundary contributed to isolated, yet strong, thunderstorms, over eastern counties of South Carolina Monday afternoon. Golf ball-sized hail was reported in Sumter County and the Bennettsville Police Department measured 2.18 inches of rain. Daily high temperatures for most of central South Carolina climbed into the middle 80s through the week. A weak frontal boundary crossed the state Thursday evening with scattered thundershowers. While mostly sunny weather was observed well inland, thunderstorms reformed during the day on Saturday across southern sections and near the central coast. Parts of Berkeley County were pelted with up to 1.75-inch diameter hail. A few sites on Saturday warmed to 90 degrees before an area of low pressure brought a round of violent weather and intense rainfalls which began before sunrise Sunday. Edgefield County was hit by 1.75-inch diameter hail and a weak tornado. There were additional storm reports of tornadoes causing damage in Aiken and Hampton County and over both Johns and James Island in Charleston County. The Florence AP noted a minimum barometric pressure of 29.38 inches of mercury at 5:53 p.m. Sunday and the Columbia Metro AP measured west winds gusting to 48 mph. The week ended with a noticeable lowering of temperatures and clearing skies. The state average temperature for the period was four degrees above normal.

The highest official temperature reported was 91 degrees at Jamestown on May 10. The lowest official temperature reported was 47 degrees at Walhalla on the morning of May 5. The heaviest official 24-hour rainfall reported was 2.30 inches at Edgefield ending at 7:00 a.m. on May 11. The state average rainfall for the period was 1.5 inches.

SOIL: 4-inch depth average soil temperature: Columbia 74 degrees.

RIVERS AND SURF: South Carolina river stages were near to below normal. Ocean water temperatures at Springmaid Pier Myrtle Beach were reported at 73 degrees.

Precipitation

Location	Weekly Total	Jan 1 Total	Deviation from Average
Greer	0.81	15.37	-3.7
Columbia	1.39	14.78	-2.3
Orangeburg	3.02	14.36	-2.7
Charlotte, NC	0.41	13.35	-2.8
Augusta, GA	1.53	15.95	-1.2
Florence	2.29	15.38	0.4
N Myrtle Beach	1.55	15.04	1.0
Charleston	1.83	12.52	-2.5
Savannah, GA	1.09	12.53	-2.4

Weekly rainfall totals this period ending midnight Sunday.



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